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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/694,065	10/27/2003	John Joseph Price JR.	TI-36537	1159

7590 12/01/2004  
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EXAMINER
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WELLS, KENNETH B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2816

DATE MAILED: 12/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/694,065

Applicant(s)

PRICE, JOHN JOSEPH

Examiner

Kenneth B. Wells

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 October 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: on page 1, line 8 of paragraph [0002], "in" should be changed to --on--. On page 4, line 8 of paragraph [0014], the comma after "Although" should be deleted. On page 5, line 3 of paragraph [0016], "determine" should be changed to --provide the scaled master stage with--.

Appropriate correction is required.

2. The drawings are objected to because according to the disclosure, master stage 160 is supposed to be a scaled version of the circuit shown in instant Fig. 2 (i.e., the input stage of the main reader amplifier). However, these two circuits are very different in structure, and therefore it is not correct to describe or claim the master stage 160 as being a "scaled master stage circuit". Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures

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must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. Claims 1, 6, 7, 12, 13, 19 and 21 are objected to because of the following informalities: as noted above, it appears to be incorrect to recite a "scaled master stage" because circuit 160 (in instant Fig. 1) is very different in structure from that of the instant Fig. 2 circuitry. Thus, there does not appear to be support for this terminology in the specification or claims. In claim 2, "a main amplifier" lacks clear antecedent basis because it cannot be determined if this is referring to the same element as the "main amplifier stage" in claim 1, i.e., applicant should amend this claim to make clear the relationship between the main amplifier stage of claim 1 and the main amplifier of claim 2. Moreover, if the "main amplifier" of

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claim 2 is the same as, or part of, the "main amplifier stage" in claim 1, then claim 2 is improper because the claimed apparatus is a tail current generating circuit for use with (i.e., intended use) a main amplifier stage, whereas in claim 2, applicant appears to be reciting a combination of the tail current generating circuit and the main amplifier stage. Thus, claim 2 is inconsistent with claim 1 (because claim 1 is directed to a tail current generating circuit while claim 2 is directed to a tail current generating circuit plus an amplifier circuit, which is improper since claim 2 is a dependent claim from independent claim 1 (applicant should also note claims 6, 7, 12 and 19 which have the same problem). In claim 7, line 4 should not end in a comma. In claims 13 and 21, it appears that --said-- should be inserted before the phrases "at least one bipolar transistor" and "at least one MOS transistor". On line 1 of claim 21, "in" should be changed to --of--. Appropriate correction is required.

4. Claims 1-23 are allowed.

Claims 1, 11 and 16 are allowable in view of the limitation that the balanced stage includes at least one BJT and one MOS transistor; claim 7 is allowable in view of the limitation on the last two lines thereof; and claim 19 is allowable in view

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of the limitation of the feedback arrangement in the scaled master stage and providing a scaled current generated in the master stage as the tail current for the amplifier.

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

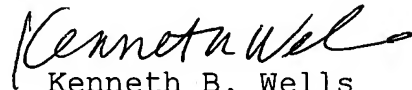
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth B. Wells whose telephone number is (571)272-1757. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan, can be reached at (571)272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system,

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see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kenneth B. Wells  
Primary Examiner  
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November 26, 2004